UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO WESTERN DIVISION

HOMER LEE RICHARDSON,
Plaintiff

VS

Case No. C-1-05-667 (Spiegel, J.)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Defendant

(Hogan, M.J.)

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION

This matter is before the Court on the United States of America

This matter is before the Court on the United States of America's Motion to Dismiss (Doc. 5), and Plaintiff's Response thereto (Doc. 8).

BACKGROUND

Plaintiff seeks injunctive relief related to the collection of his unpaid tax liability for the tax year 1997, namely an order directing the IRS to release a notice of federal tax lien against him and enjoining the IRS "from filing any more improper liens or illegally seizing [Plaintiff's] property in violation of the law during the pendency of the Tax Court case for the year in question." (Doc. 8 at p.2). In addition, Plaintiff also seeks damages in the amount of \$10,000.

OPINION

The Court Lacks Jurisdiction over Plaintiff's Claims for Injunctive Relief

Under a Rule 12(b)(1) motion to dismiss for lack of subject matter jurisdiction, defendants can attack the complaint's jurisdictional allegations even though they are formally sufficient. *Baker v. Siemens Energy and Automation*, *Inc.*, 838 F. Supp. 1227, 1229 (S.D. Ohio 1993)(Spiegel, J.). When the Court

reviews a factual attack on subject matter jurisdiction, no presumption of truthfulness applies to the factual allegations of the complaint. *United States v. Ritchie*, 15 F.3d 592, 598 (6th Cir. 1994). The Court may rely on affidavits or any other evidence properly before it and has wide latitude to collect evidence to determine the issue of subject matter jurisdiction. *Rogers v. Stratton Industries, Inc.*, 798 F.2d 913, 915 (6th Cir. 1986). The Court is entitled to resolve factual disputes and is free to weigh the affidavits, documents and other evidentiary matters presented and satisfy itself as to its power to hear the case. *Ritchie*, 15 F.3d at 598. The Court must consider factual issues in a manner that is fair to the nonmoving party. *Rogers*, 798 F.2d at 915. Plaintiff must demonstrate jurisdiction in order to survive the motion. *Moir v. Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority*, 895 F.2d 266, 269 (6th Cir. 1990). "Whenever it appears by suggestion of the parties or otherwise that the court lacks jurisdiction of the subject matter, the court shall dismiss the action." Fed. R. Civ. P. 12(h)(3).

Initially, the Court notes that Plaintiff's request for injunctive relief appears now to be moot. Plaintiff seeks an order enjoining the IRS from filing any more liens during the pendency of the Tax Court case for the year in question, and for the release of the notice of federal tax lien filed against him. It appears, upon review of the docket in Plaintiff's Tax court proceeding, that a decision was issued on April 11, 2006. (See Ex. 1, United States Tax Court Docket No. 16794-03, Doc. 49). Moreover, a Certificate of Release of Federal Tax Lien was executed on October 24, 2005 and recorded on November 4, 2005 with the Hamilton County Recorder's Office. (See Ex. 2 Certificate of Release of Federal Tax Lien, attached). Therefore, the relief Plaintiff seeks in this respect has been rendered moot.

In addition, to the extent Plaintiff seeks to enjoin the IRS from filing "any more liens during the pendency of the Tax Court case for the year in question." his requests are barred by the Anti-Injunction Act, which provides that "no suit for the purposes of restraining the assessment or collection of any tax shall be maintained in any court for any reason." 26 U.S.C. § 7421(a). The Anti-Injunction Act expressly prohibits a taxpayer from bringing suit in order to restrain the assessment or collection of a tax. 26 U.S.C. § 7421(a). The act was passed to ensure that once

¹ The Court is permitted, pursuant to Fed. R. Evid. 201, to take judicial notice of a public record whose existence or contents prove facts whose accuracy cannot reasonably be questioned. *Passa v. City of Columbus*, 123 Fed.Appx. 694 (6th Cir. Feb. 16, 2005).

a tax has been assessed, the tax can be collected without judicial intervention. See Enochs v. Williams Packaging & Navigating, Co. Inc., 370 U.S. 1, 7 (1962). The taxpayer's only recourse in this situation is seek a refund for any contested taxes after they have been payed in full. See Bob Jones University v. Simon, 416 U.S. 725, 736-37 (1974). There are, however, two exceptions to this general rule. An injunction may be maintained when the taxpayer can show that the government cannot, under any circumstances, prevail on the merits of the tax claim, and, when there is a threat of irreparable harm to the taxpayer for which the taxpayer has no legal remedy. See Enochs, 370 U.S. at 7. Neither of these conditions are present in the Plaintiff's case. He has not presented any facts demonstrating that the government cannot support its assessment against him. Indeed, as evidenced by the Tax Court's decision finding him liable for the assessed taxes. (See Ex. 1, United States Tax Court Docket No. 16794-03, Doc. 49). Furthermore, he has a legal remedy available through a claim for refund after collection of the taxes. Therefore, Plaintiff cannot support a claim for injunctive relief against the Defendant.

Plaintiff Fails to State a Claim for Relief Pursuant to 26 U.S.C. §§ 6325 or 7432

The purpose of Rule 12(b)(6) is to allow a defendant to test whether, as a matter of law, the plaintiff is entitled to legal relief even if everything alleged in the complaint is true. *Mayer v. Mylod*, 988 F.2d 635, 638 (6th Cir. 1993), citing *Nishiyama v. Dickson County, Tennessee*, 814 F.2d 277, 279 (6th Cir. 1987). To that end, in determining a motion to dismiss for failure to state a claim, the allegations in the complaint must be taken as true and construed in the light most favorable to the nonmoving party. *Westlake v. Lucas*, 537 F.2d 857 (6th Cir. 1976). The motion to dismiss should not be granted "unless it appears beyond doubt that the plaintiff can prove no set of facts in support of his claim which would entitle him to relief." *Conley v. Gibson*, 355 U.S. 41, 45-46 (1957); *Scheuer v. Rhodes*, 416 U.S. 232, 236 (1974). Although pro se complaints are held to less stringent standards as compared with formal pleadings drafted by attorneys, the Court is not required to fabricate allegations which are not plead. *Estelle v. Gamble*, 429 U.S. 97, 106 (1976); *Haines v. Kerner*, 404 U.S. 519, 520

More than bare assertions of legal conclusions are required to satisfy federal notice pleading requirements. A complaint must contain "either direct or inferential allegations respecting all the material elements to sustain a recovery under *some* viable legal theory." *Scheid v. Fanny Farmer Candy Shops, Inc.*, 859

F.2d 434, 436 (6th Cir. 1988) (quoting Car Carriers, Inc. v. Ford Motor Co., 745 F.2d 1101, 1106 (7th Cir. 1984), cert. denied, 470 U.S. 1054 (1985)(citations omitted)(emphasis in original)). A complaint will not be dismissed when plaintiff fails to plead facts in support of "every arcane element of his claim," but when a complaint "omits facts that, if they existed, would clearly dominate the case," it is fair to assume that those facts do not exist. McGregor v. Industrial Excess Landfill, Inc., 856 F.2d 39, 43 (6th Cir. 1988) (quoting O'Brien v. DiGrazia, 544 F.2d 543, 546 n.3 (1st Cir. 1976), cert. denied sub nom. O'Brien v. Jordan, 431 U.S. 914 (1977)). Moreover, the Federal Rules provide that, for motions made pursuant to Rule 12(b)(6), where "matters outside the pleadings are presented to and not excluded by the court, the motion shall be treated as one for summary judgment and disposed of as provided in Rule 56...." Fed.R.Civ.P. 12(b). See Dayco Corp. v. Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co., 523 F.2d 389 (6th Cir. 1975). Because both parties submitted evidence to the Court in support of their respective positions, the Court finds no prejudice in treating Defendant's motion as one for summary judgment.

A motion for summary judgment should be granted if the evidence submitted to the court demonstrates that there is no genuine issue as to any material fact and that the movant is entitled to summary judgment as a matter of law. Fed. R. Civ. P. 56. *See also Celotex Corp. v. Catrett*, 477 U.S. 317, 322 (1986); *Anderson v. Liberty Lobby, Inc.*, 477 U.S. 242, 247-48 (1986). The moving party has the burden of showing the absence of genuine disputes over facts which, under the substantive law governing the issue, might affect the outcome of the action. *Celotex*, 477 U.S. at 323.

A party may move for summary judgment on the basis that the opposing party will not be able to produce sufficient evidence at trial to withstand a motion for judgment as a matter of law. In response to a summary judgment motion properly supported by evidence, the non-moving party is required to present some significant probative evidence which makes it necessary to resolve the parties' differing versions of the dispute at trial. *Sixty Ivy Street Corp. v. Alexander*, 822 F.2d 1432, 1435 (6th Cir. 1987); *Harris v. Adams*, 873 F.2d 929, 931 (6th Cir. 1989). Conclusory allegations, however, are not sufficient to defeat a properly supported summary judgment motion. *McDonald v. Union Camp Corp.*, 898 F.2d 1155, 1162 (6th Cir. 1990). The non-moving party must designate those portions of the record with enough specificity that the Court can readily identify those facts upon which the non-moving party relies. *Karnes v. Runyon*, 912 F. Supp. 280, 283

(S.D. Ohio 1995)(Spiegel, J.). "[A]fter a motion for summary judgment has been filed, thereby testing the resisting party's evidence, a factual issue may not be created by filing an affidavit contradicting [one's own] earlier deposition testimony." *Davidson & Jones Dev. Co. v. Elmore Dev. Co.*, 921 F.2d 1343, 1352 (6th Cir. 1991).

The trial judge's function is not to weigh the evidence and determine the truth of the matter, but to determine whether there is a genuine factual issue for trial. *Anderson*, 477 U.S. at 249-50. In so doing, the trial court does not have a duty to search the entire record to establish that there is no material issue of fact. *Karnes*, 912 F. Supp. at 283. *See also Street v. J.C. Bradford & Co.*, 886 F.2d 1472, 1479-80 (6th Cir. 1989); *Frito-Lay, Inc. v. Willoughby*, 863 F.2d 1029, 1034 (D.C. Cir. 1988). The inquiry is whether the evidence presents a sufficient disagreement to require submission to a jury or whether it is so one-sided that one party must prevail as a matter of law. *Anderson*, 477 U.S. at 249-50. "Where the record taken as a whole could not lead a rational trier of fact to find for the non-moving party, there is no 'genuine issue for trial." *Matsushita Electric Industrial Co. v. Zenith Radio Corp.*, 475 U.S. 574, 587 (1986).

Plaintiff seeks an award of damages of at least \$10,000 pursuant to 26 U.S.C. § 7432. (Doc. 1 at $\P\P$ 1, 31-33). 26 U.S.C. § 7432 provides in pertinent part that:

If any officer or employee of the Internal Revenue Service knowingly, or by reason of negligence, fails to release a lien under section 6325 on property of the taxpayer, such taxpayer may bring a civil action for damages against the United States in a district court of the United States

With respect to the release of a lien under 26 U.S.C. § 6325, the Code provides in pertinent part:

- (a) Release of lien
 Subject to such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe, the
 Secretary shall issue a certificate of release of any lien imposed
- Secretary shall issue a certificate of release of any lien imposed with respect to any internal revenue tax not later than 30 days after the day on which -
- (1) Liability satisfied or unenforceable

The Secretary finds that the liability for the amount assessed, together with all interest in respect thereof, has been fully satisfied or has become legally unenforceable; or (2) Bond accepted

There is furnished to the Secretary and accepted by him a bond that is conditioned upon the payment of the amount assessed, together with all interest in respect thereof, within the time prescribed by law (including any extension of such time), and that is in accordance with such requirements relating to terms, conditions, and form of the bond and sureties thereon, as may be specified by such regulations.

26 U.S.C. § 6325 (a)(1) & (2). Plaintiff has failed to establish that Defendant failed to release the lien pursuant to § 6325's criteria. The Certificate of Release states only that Plaintiff satisfied the taxes for the tax year 1997 under the requirements of 26 U.S.C. § 6325(a). Plaintiff has, however, provided the Court with no evidence that Defendants knowingly or negligently failed to release the lien under the criteria set forth in § 6325. As such, we find Defendant's motion to be well taken.

IT IS THEREFORE RECOMMENDED THAT:

- 1) Defendant's Motion to Dismiss (Doc. 5) be GRANTED.
- 2) This case be TERMINATED on the Court's Docket.

Date: 7/12/2006 s/Timothy S. Hogan
Timothy S. Hogan

United States Magistrate Judge

NOTICE

Attached hereto is the Report and Recommended decision of The Honorable Timothy S. Hogan, United States Magistrate Judge, which was filed on 7/13/2006. Any party may object to the Magistrate's findings, recommendations and report within ten (10) days after being served with a copy thereof or further appeal is waived. *See United States v. Walters*, 638 F.2d 947 (6th Cir. 1981); *see also* Fed. R. Civ. P. 72(b). Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 6(e), this period is automatically extended to thirteen (13) days (excluding intervening Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays) in the event this Report is served by mail, and may be extended further by the Court on timely motion for an extension. Such parties shall file with the Clerk of Court, and serve on all Parties, the Judge and the Magistrate, a written Motion to Review which shall specifically identify the portions of the proposed findings, recommendations or report to which objection is made along with a memorandum of law setting forth the basis for such objections. (Such parties shall file with the Clerk a transcript of the specific portions of any evidentiary proceedings to which an objection is made).

In the event a party files a Motion to Review the Magistrate's Findings, Recommendations and Report, all other parties shall respond to said Motion to Review within ten (10) days after being served a copy thereof. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 72(b).

07/06/06

UNITED STATES TAX COURT DOCKET ENTRIES

Docket No. 16794-03 Homer L. Richardson INDEX

v. COMMISSIONER OF INTERNAL REVENUE

JR0176 (Service Attorney)
NO. 1 Jones, Robert Alan
R.A.J. Limited
Suite 7
1061 E. Flamingo Road
Las Vegas, NV 89119

NO.	DATE	EVENT	FILINGS AND PROCEEDINGS	ACT,	STAT 1	DTE		SERVED	M
			PETITION Filed: Fee Paid DESIGNATION of Trial at Las					10/01/03 10/01/03	
0002	09/30/03	DPT	Vegas, NV				ĸ	10/01/03	
0003	11/18/03	MOTR	MOTION by resp. to ext. time to 1-12-04 to ans. (N.Obj.) (C/S 11-17-03)	GR	11/19,	/03	В	11/19/03	
0004	01/06/04	ACS	ANSWER (C/S 01/05/04).						
			MOTION by petr. to cons. 16794-03						
			& 16795-03. (C/S 1-16-04)	ORD	02/17,	/04			
0006	01/27/04	NOF	NOTICE of Filing mot. to consol.				n	01/07/04	_
0007	02/10/04	DEGD	Obj. to be filed 2/17/04. RESPONSE by Resp. to mot. to				B	01/27/04	C
0007	02/10/04	KESF	cons. (C/S 2-9-04)						
0008	02/17/04	0	ORDER mot. to cons. is granted.				В	02/18/04	
0009	03/29/04	MOTR	MOTION by resp. under Rule 37 (c). (C/S 3-26-04)	DN	04/22	/04	В	04/22/04	
0010	03/29/04	NOF	NOTICE of Filing 37(c) mot.		•			, ,	
			(Reply due: 4-19-04)				В	03/29/04	C
	04/20/04		REPLY (C/S 04/19/04)						
0012	07/02/04	NTD	NOTICE of Trial on 12/06/04 at				_	07/00/04	<u> </u>
0012	07/02/04	CDTO	Las Vegas, NV. STANDING PRE-TRIAL ORDER attached				D	07/02/04	C
0013	07/02/04	SFIO	to Notice of Trial				В	07/02/04	С
0014	07/12/04	MOTP	MOTION by petr. for lv. to file				_	.,,,	_
			mot. to strike parts of ans.	ORD	07/16,	/04			
			(Mot. to Strike Ld.) (C/S 7-9-04)						
0015	07/16/04	0	ORDER Petr. mot. to file mot. to				_	07/10/04	~
			strike is Gr. in part & Dn. in part.				B	07/19/04	Ç
0016	07/16/04	м∩тр	MOTION by petr. to strike parts				R	07/19/04	
0010	07/10/04	MOTI	of answer.	ORD	10/05/	/04	•	0.715,01	
0017	07/16/04	0	ORDER Resp. by 8-6-04 file		_ , , , , ,				
			response to mot. to strike.				В	07/19/04	C
0018	08/09/04	OBJ	OBJECTION by Resp. to mot. to						
0019	08/08/04	м₽м∩	strike. (C/S 8-6-04) (Leave Gr.) MEMORANDUM by Resp. In Support of						
2013	00/03/04	MEMO	(Continued to page 2)						

Ex. 1

07/06/06

Docket No. 16794-03 (Continuation Page INDEX 2) DATE EVENT NO. FILINGS AND PROCEEDINGS ACT/STAT DTE obj. to mot. to strike. (C/S 8-6-04) (Leave Gr.) 0020 09/22/04 RAR REQUEST FOR ADMISSIONS by Resp. (C/S 09/21/04) ORDER Petr. mot. to strike parts 0021 10/05/04 0 B 10/05/04 C of answer is denied. 0022 10/25/04 MOTR MOTION by resp. to compel docu. w/Exhs. (C/S 10-22-04) (Leave ORD 10/28/04 Gr.) 0023 10/25/04 MISC PETR. ANSWERS TO RESP. REQUEST FOR ADMISSIONS. (C/S 10-21-04)REQUEST FOR ADMISSIONS by Petr. 0024 10/25/04 RAP (C/S 10/21/04) (Per Judge) NOTICE by Resp. to w/d his mot. 0025 10/27/04 NOT to compel docu. (C/S 10-26-04) 0026 10/28/04 0 ORDER Resp. by 11-22-04 file response to req. for admissions. B 10/28/04 C 0027 10/28/04 0 ORDER Resp. mot. to compel is dn. B 10/28/04 C as moot. 0028 10/28/04 O ORDER trl set. date certain of 12-9-04. B 10/28/04 C 0029 11/03/04 MISC RESP. ANSWERS TO PETR. REQUEST FOR ADMISSIONS. (C/S 11-2-04) 0030 12/02/04 MOTP MOTION by petr. in limine to exclude certain docu. of Resp. ORD 12/09/04 from evidence for trial. w/Ex. (C/S 12/1/04) 0031 12/06/04 TRL TRIAL before Judge Wherry at Las Vegas, NV SUB 12/10/04 Also called 12-9-04 & 12-10-04. Petr. mot. filed 12-2-04--See Ord. 12-9-04. Petr. oral mot. to w/d mot. filed 12-2-04--See Ord. 12-9-04. OPENING BRIEFS DUE: 2-23-05 ANSWERING BRIEFS DUE: 5-2-05 SUBMITTED TO JUDGE WHERRY 0032 12/09/04 STP STIPULATION OF FACTS. Exhs. Att'd. 0033 12/09/04 MOTP MOTION by petr. at 16795-03 for DN 12/09/04 B 12/16/04 C part. summ. judg. as to 1996. REPORT by Petr. at 16795-03 0034 12/09/04 RPT re:her attendance at trial. (C/S 12-8-04) (Per Judge) PRE-TRIAL MEMORANDUM by Resp. 0035 12/09/04 PTM (C/S 11-23-04) PRE-TRIAL MEMORANDUM by Petr. 0036 12/09/04 PTM (C/S 11-26-04) 0037 12/09/04 0 ORDER Petr. oral mot. to w/d mot. B 12/16/04 C in Limine is Gr. Said mot. (Continued to page 3)

07/06/06

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Docket No. 16794-03 (Continuation Page 3) INDEX NO. DATE EVENT FILINGS AND PROCEEDINGS М ACT/STAT DTE SERVED w/d. 0038 01/05/05 TRAN TRANSCRIPT of 12-6-04 rec'd. (Cal Call) 0039 01/21/05 TRAN TRANSCRIPT of 12-9-04 rec'd. (TRL) 0040 01/21/05 TRAN TRANSCRIPT of 12-9-04 rec'd. (TRL) 0041 01/21/05 TRAN TRANSCRIPT of 12-10-04 rec'd. (TRL) 0042 02/14/05 MOTP MOTION by petr. to enlarge time to 3-14-05 for brfs. (C/S ORD 02/15/05 2-10-05) 0043 02/15/05 0 ORDER Petr's. Mot to enlarge time is granted. Time for filing B 02/15/05 C Opening Briefs is ext. to 3-14-05. Time ext. to 5-20-05 for Answering Briefs. P 03/22/05 C 0044 03/15/05 BFR BRIEF for resp. (p.m.t.) 0045 03/17/05 BFP BRIEF for petr. w/Exhs. (Leave Gr) R 03/22/05 0046 05/23/05 RBFR REPLY BRIEF for resp. P 05/24/05 C 0047 05/23/05 RBFP REPLY BRIEF for petr. R 05/24/05 0048 12/15/05 MOTP MOTION by petr. requesting judicial notice. w/attachments ORD 04/11/06 0049 04/11/06 MOP MEMORANDUM OPINION, Judge Wherry T.C. Memo. 2006-69 B 04/11/06 C (Appropriate orders and decisions for Resp. will be entered) 0050 04/11/06 OAD ORDER AND DECISION ENTERED, Judge B 04/11/06 C Wherry. Petr. mot. (48) Dn.

JUL-06-2006 10:00AM FROM- Case: 1:05-cv-00667-SAS-TSH Doc #: 9 Filed: 07/13/06 Page: 11 of 12 PAGEID #: 316^{F-591}

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EX	2

Form 668 (Z)) 11596		•	rnal Revenue Servic Sederal Tax Li	
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LOVE Liber Page	e UCC No.	5140-9318 RECORDING IND Serial No.	FORMATION:))
09903 0270 Kind of Tax	7 Tax Period Ending	05-0054278 Identifying Numbe	Date of Assessment (d)	Last Day for Refiling	Unpaid Balance of Assessment (f)
	12/31/1997		N 05/14/2003	06/13/2013	131075.07
		,			
Place of Filing	HAMIL	Y RECORDER TON COUNTY NNATI, OH 452	102	Total	\$ 131075.07
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he 24th	day of Octo	ber , 2005,		10085	1845
Signature	Susan	a. Hansen	Title Dire	ector, Campus cations	Compliance
		orized by law to take ack	nowledgments is not as	sential to the validity of	Certificate of Release of

Part 1 - RECORDING OFFICE

Form **668 (Z)** (Rev. 10-2000) CAT, NO 600261

1:0501667

SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTIO	COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY						
 Complete items 1, 2, and 3. Also co item 4 if Restricted Delivery is desired. Print your name and address on the so that we can return the card to your address. Attach this card to the back of the nor on the front if space permits. 	ed. reverse u.	A. Signature X					
1. Article Addressed to: Horner Lee Richard 759 Quailwods DT	If YES, enter delivery address below: No						
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Article Number (Transfer from service label)	2002	0860	0000	1409	2344	} 	
PS Form 3811, August 2001	Domestic Ret	urn Receipt			.,	102595-02-M-0835	